

REMARKS

Claims 1-38 and 62-67 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 39-61 were previously cancelled. Claims 1-38 and 62-67 were rejected. With this Amendment, no claims were amended, added or cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-38 and 62-67 remain at issue in the above-identified application.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Obviousness Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-5 and 7-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,262,215 to Shields. Claims 6, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,262,215 to Shields in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,110,317 to Sandor. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

The present invention relates generally to a decal sheet, and more specifically to a decal sheet having an image of the decal under the decal itself. Images appear on various surfaces. For example, on photographs, greeting cards, baseball cards, pamphlets, etc. The images that appear on these items are affixed onto the surfaces of these items so that the ability to transfer the image onto another surface is not possible. Using stickers, or decals, one can transfer images onto different surfaces. However, once these stickers or decals are removed, the images that are on these stickers or decals no longer exist on the original item from which the sticker or decal was removed from. The Applicant has discovered that by placing an image on a surface and another image on a base layer, wherein both images are identical to each other and where both images coincide, then, it is possible to remove the base layer and place the base layer on another surface, while maintaining the image that is on the original item.

Claim 1 recites a decal sheet comprising an image on a surface, wherein the image has a shape, release paper on the surface over the image, an adhesive layer on the release paper, wherein the adhesive layer is formed in a shape similar to the image shape, a base layer on the adhesive layer, *wherein the base layer is formed in a shape similar to the image shape, and another image on the base layer, wherein the other image is identical to the image and wherein the image and the other image coincide.*

Shields teaches a laminated article including a web releasably adhered to a carrier sheet having indicia imprinted thereon. The web includes a die cut top layer having indicia imprinted separable pieces releasably adhered to a support layer. Upon separating the web from the carrier sheet, selected ones of the separable pieces can be releasably attached to the carrier whereby the respective indicia cooperate for the playing of a game or creation of a scene. *Shields* does not teach or disclose a decal sheet which comprises an image on a surface wherein the image has a shape and a base layer on that surface wherein the base layer is formed in a shape similar to the image shape. Additionally, *Shields* does not teach or disclose the base layer having *another image* wherein the other image is *identical* to the image on the surface and wherein the image on the surface and wherein the image on the surface and wherein the image on the surface and the other image *coincide*. Therefore, since *Shields* does not teach or disclose these elements, and since these elements are not an obvious variation of what is taught in *Shields*, Applicant maintains that the current set of claims are not obvious in light of *Shields*.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all claims are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully requests early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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